

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for producing a quartz glass blank, said method comprising: a method step in which SiO<sub>2</sub> particles are produced by [means-of] a row of deposition burners and deposited on a cylinder outer surface of a carrier rotating about a [the] longitudinal axis thereof to form a cylindrical porous SiO<sub>2</sub> soot body, [the surface temperature of the forming soot body being altered by means-of] a temperature adjustment body altering a surface temperature of the soot body as it is being formed, [characterized-in-that] wherein the temperature adjustment body comprises [is used in the form of] a planar element [(13; 31)] extending along a substantial part of the SiO<sub>2</sub> soot body [(2)], which either acts as a homogeneous heat sink and has a temperature-shielding effect on the soot body surface [(10)] or, acts as a homogeneous reflector, and has a temperature-raising effect due to heat radiation.
2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, [characterized-in-that] wherein said [a] planar element [(31)-is used that] is formed by an inner wall of a housing [(30)] surrounding the SiO<sub>2</sub> soot body[(2)].
3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 [~~or 2~~], [characterized-in-that] wherein the planar element [(13; 31)] acts as a reflector with a reflectance for IR radiation between 80% and 100%.
4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 3, [characterized-in-that] wherein heat of the deposition burners [(5)] is reflected towards the soot body [(2)] by means of the planar element [(31)].
5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 3, [characterized-in-that] wherein heat of the forming SiO<sub>2</sub> soot body [(2)] is reflected by means of the planar element [(13)] towards the soot body surface [(10)].

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 [~~any one of the preceding claims~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element has an efficiency, defined as a [~~the~~] solid angle covering the forming SiO<sub>2</sub> soot body, of at least 60%.
7. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 [~~or 2~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element acts as a heat sink absorbing IR radiation.
8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 7, [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the [~~a~~] planar element [~~is used that~~] has a roughened surface having a mean surface roughness R<sub>a</sub> of at least 10 µm.
9. (currently amended) The method according to claim 7 [~~or 8~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the [~~a~~] planar element [~~is used that~~] has a blackened surface.
10. (currently amended) The method according to claim 7 [~~any one of claims 7 to 9~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element is cooled.
11. (currently amended) The method according to claim 3 [~~1 and any one of claims 3 to 10~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element is moved along the soot body [~~(2)~~].
12. (currently amended) The method according to claim 3 [~~1 and any one of claims 3 to 11~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the distance between the planar element [~~(13)~~] and the surface [~~(10)~~] of the forming SiO<sub>2</sub> soot body [~~(2)~~] is kept constant.
13. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 [~~any one of the preceding claims~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element [~~(13; 31)~~] extends over the whole usable length of the soot body [~~(2)~~].

14. (currently amended) A device for carrying out the method according to claim 1 [~~any one of the preceding claims~~], said device comprising: a row of deposition burners for producing SiO<sub>2</sub> particles, a carrier which is rotatable about the longitudinal axis thereof and having a [on-the] cylinder outer surface on [of] which the produced SiO<sub>2</sub> particles are deposited to form a cylindrical porous SiO<sub>2</sub> soot body, and [comprising] at least one temperature adjustment body that [which] is [~~arranged~~] supported in an [the] area of the forming soot body and that [which] acts on a [the] surface temperature of the forming soot body for altering an axial density profile, [characterized in that] wherein the temperature adjustment body comprises a planar element [(13; 31) which] that acts as a homogeneous heat sink or as a homogeneous reflector and that [which] extends along a substantial part of the SiO<sub>2</sub> soot body [(2)] and has a predetermined reflectance for IR radiation.

15. (currently amended) The device according to claim 14, [characterized in that] wherein the planar element [(31)] is formed by an inner wall of a housing [(30)] surrounding the SiO<sub>2</sub> soot body [(2)].

16. (currently amended) The device according to claim 14 [~~or 15~~], [characterized in that] wherein the planar element [(13; 31) for IR radiation] has a reflectance between 80% and 100% for IR radiation.

17. (currently amended) The device according to claim 16, [characterized in that] wherein the planar element [(13; 31)] has a concave curvature [(7; 33)].

18. (currently amended) The device according to claim 16 [~~or 17~~], [characterized in that] wherein the concave curvature [(33)] has a focal point [(34)] which is located in an [the] area of the row of deposition burners [(5)].

19. (currently amended) The device according to claim 16 [~~to 17~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the concave curvature [(7)] comprises a focal point [(14)] which is located in the area of the forming SiO<sub>2</sub> soot body [(2)].
20. (currently amended) The device according to claim 14 [~~any one of claims 14 to 19~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element comprises a surface absorbing IR radiation.
21. (currently amended) The device according to claim 20, [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element is roughened and has a mean surface roughness R<sub>a</sub> of at least 10 µm.
22. (currently amended) The device according to claim 20 [~~or 21~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element has a blackened surface.
23. (currently amended) The device according to claim 20 [~~any one of claims 20 to 22~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element is provided with a cooling device.
24. (currently amended) The device according to claim [~~14 and any one of claims~~] 16 [~~to 23~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element is supported for movement [~~made movable~~] along the soot body.
25. (currently amended) The device according to claim [~~14 and any one of claims~~] 16 [~~to 24~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element [(13)] is made displaceable in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis [(3)] of the carrier.
26. (currently amended) The device according to claim 14 [~~any one of the preceding claims 14 to 25~~], [~~characterized in that~~] wherein the planar element [(13; 31)] extends over the whole usable length of the soot body [(2)].